US Army Corps of Engineers®

THE LOWER MISSISSIPPI RIVER

AMERICA'$ TREA$URE

"The Mississippi River remains what it always was – a kind of huge rope, no matter with what knots and frayings, tying the United States together. It is the Nile of the Western Hemisphere. "

SIGNIFICANCE

- Territory
- Social
- Economic
- Recreation
- Environment

TERRITORY

- River segment is 954 miles long, 7 States (IL, KY, MO, AR, TN, MS, LA)
- 235 Counties and Parishes
- 22 Million acre alluvial valley
- 125+ Side Channels
- Floodplain ranges from 30-110 Miles wide, capable of storing 60 days of discharge

SOCIAL

- Delta Inhabitants: 26 million
- 30+ Percent of the US Population lives within the watershed
- Quality of Life Depends on it
- Municipal, industrial and agricultural water supply
- Antebellum Homes
- Blues, Jazz and Rock & Roll Music

ECONOMIC

- Jobs
- Navigation
- Flood Control
- Agriculture and Aquaculture
- Timber
- Industrial
- Wildlife Refuges
- Other

RECREATION

- Hunting
- Bird Watching
- Ecotourism
- Fishing
- Boating
- Visiting Historic Sites
- Hike/Bike Trails

ENVIRONMENT

- Wetlands
- Bottomland Hardwoods
- Waterfowl
- Fish/Mammals/Mussels
- Cultural
- Oxbow Lakes
- Coastal Marshes

BY THE NUMBER$*

Source: *Economic Profile of the Lower Mississippi River Region, January 2004*

Sector	Revenue (in Millions)	Employment
Navigation	$ 6,000	29,000
Agriculture	6,800	103,000
Water Supply	51	470
Tourism	13,500	183,000
Recreation	791	13,600
Manufacturing	87,000	383,000
Other	14,136	58,700
TOTAL (ROUNDED)	$128,200	771,000

Questions?

Comments?